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REPORT

OF THE

SELECTMEN

AND

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE

OF THE

TOWN OF NEW-LONDON,

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1869.

• CONCORD:

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1869.

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SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

Ministerial Department.

Paid Micajah Morgan, for Baptist Society,	\$66.98
Asa Ray, for Christian Society,	12.42
	<hr/> \$79.40

Common School Department.

Paid Newton Manahan, District No. 1,	\$79.05
Edmund Davis, " " 2,	94.18
Henry R. Gates, " " 3,	277.21
Daniel M. Annis, " " 4,	136.78
Benjamin Everett, " " 5,	120.78
Asa B. Pillsbury, " " 6,	71.35
George W. Sargent, " " 7,	59.47
	<hr/> \$838.82

Town Debts.

Paid Asa B. Pillsbury, amount of note,	\$177.31
" " "	104.80
Harriet S. Messer, " "	203.73
" " "	164.50
Jacob Messer, " "	388.93
Margaret Burpee, " "	34.59
Simeon Hall, " "	371.15
Mary E. George, indorsed on note,	850.00
Mary Adams, " "	13.12
Levi Nichols, amount of note,	152.82
Augusta Davis, " "	40.02
Ransom F. Sargent, " "	141.85
" " "	70.71

Paid John M. Dow, amount of note,	141.85
Laura Davis, " "	133.82
" " " "	26.67
Nancy Brown, " "	55.71
Austin Morgan, " "	648.45
Charles Goings, indorsed on note,	12.00
Wyman Kimball, services on town farm,	250.00
Imri P. Adams, amount of note,	159.79
Martha A. Adams, " "	42.22
David W. Bunker, " "	180.85
Eliphalet Gay, indorsed,	100.00
Jane E. Graves, amount of note,	224.72
Ministerial money, to J. E. H. Shepard,	75.00

\$4,744.61

Town Charges.

Paid State tax,	1,975.00
County tax,	809.14
McFarland & Jenks, for printing reports,	28.00
Phinehas Messer, for damage to carriage,	15.00
Rev. Lucien Hayden, school committee,	15.00
E. C. Eastman, for stationery,	.82
B. W. Gay, for public watering place,	3.00
Albert Little, for damage to carriage,	20.00
Albert Little, and Shirley, cost on Saunders case,	55.37
George Woodward, services as town clerk,	5.00
George M. Knight, auditor,	1.00
D. L. Guernsey, for stationery,	3.60
S. D. Greeley, insurance, town farm house,	5.85
Frank O. Dow, for digging graves,	31.50
Albert R. Hunting, selectman,	34.00
Curtis Messer, " "	30.75
Marcus E. Sargent, town clerk,	5.45
Daniel M. Annis, collector,	75.00
George Woodard, express bill,	.40
Taxes on town farm, 1868,	34.79
Due on bonds, 1868,	189.00
Luther McCutchins, selectman and town treasurer,	87.25

\$3,424.92

School Houses.

Paid Addison Parker, District No. 2,	\$150.00
Charles Crockett " " 4,	30.00
Royal A. Bunker, " " 7,	25.00

\$205.00

Roads and Bridges.

Paid Daniel M. Annis, for breaking roads,	\$14.00
Jona. G. Everett, " "	18.56
Job C. Cross, " "	4.75
Andrew J. Young, " "	5.78
David Smith, " "	5.00
Geo. K. McFarland, " "	24.25
H. Marshall Yates, " "	47.85
Charles Whitney, " "	10.30
Nathaniel Messer, " "	12.60
Moses J. Adams, " "	21.50
Lewis Fisher, work on bridge,	2.50
Samuel Bagley, " "	29.45
Royal A. Bunker, for Levi Nichols' work on road,	5.25
Michael Davis, work on road,	4.00
Daniel Bickford, " "	12.00
David Smith, for cutting bushes,	.50
Hiram Sargent, breaking roads,	6.50
Reuben Call, " "	8.60
J. D. Hemphill, " "	4.80
James E. H. Shepard, " "	21.59
Amos Hastings, " "	18.92
James Todd, " "	9.10
Osborn French, " "	18.10
B. C. Davis, " "	16.00
John Hastings, for gravel, " "	2.00
Daniel Bickford, work on road,	12.00
Micajah Morgan, breaking roads,	19.74
Curtis Messer, " "	7.70
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	\$363.34

Pauper Bills.

Paid Thomas Calley, for Fisk girl,	10.50
Town of Sutton, for Hubbard,	5.00
" " "	5.00
Levi Ferren, for Hubbard,	3.00
Benjamin Fisk, for Fisk girl,	6.00
Lewis Richards, for Hubbard,	4.00
John Nichols, for Chase girl,	4.60
Soloman M. Whipple, services,	1.25
Dr. Elkins, for Fisk girl,	50.75
John Wadleigh, for S. Davis,	23.75
C. W. Bartlett, " "	3.75
Greenwood S. Burpee, for paupers,	22.93
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	\$140.53

Abatement of Taxes.

Paid E. G. Hastings,	10.83
Thomas S. Worthen, overpaid,	2.12
Mr. Hale,	13.75
Benjamin Walker,	7.56
George Watson,	2.06
Comfort Goings,	1.58
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	\$38.90

The Selectmen credit the Town for the Year 1868, as follows:

Receipts.

Received:

By balance in hands of selectmen, as by report, 1868,	\$1,310.52
List of taxes assessed, 1868,	6,602.31
Isaac C. Pattee, for money,	79.00
Levi Nichols, borrowed,	150.00
Col. Sanborn, for George Saunders,	80.00
Laura Davis, borrowed,	100.00
Ransome Sargent,	210.00
John M. Dow,	141.85
Laura Davis,	160.49
Nancy Brown,	40.00
Charles Jewett,	250.00
George M. Jewett,	150.00
The Colby children,	250.00
George F. Willey,	200.00
Harriet S. Messer,	200.00
Asa B. Pillsbury,	282.00
Savings bank tax, 1868,	107.67
Railroad tax, 1868,	394.91
Literary fund tax, 1868,	42.84
United States bounty on volunteers,	264.00
Margaret Burpee, borrowed,	244.05
Betsey Perley,	200.00
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	\$11,459.64
Whole amount credited,	\$11,459.64
Whole amount charged,	9,835.52
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Balance in hands of selectmen,	\$1,624.12

Indebtedness of town, March 1, 1869,	\$21,566.93
Means of paying the same,	2,813.00

Indebtedness of the town,	18,753.93
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All of which is respectfully submitted.

LUTHER McCUTCHINS,	} <i>Selectmen</i> <i>of</i> <i>New-London.</i>
ALBERT R. HUNTING,	
CURTIS MESSER,	

This certifies that we have examined the accounts and books of the selectmen for the past year, and find them correctly cast and duly vouched.

GEORGE M. KNIGHT,	} <i>Auditors.</i>
WILLIAM MORGAN,	

Indebtedness of Town, March 1, 1869.

Mary Jewett,	\$260.00
John M. Dow,	280.00
Adam Davis,	200.00
Augusta Davis,	200.00
Martha Greenwood,	450.00
Luther McCutchins	106.00
Mary E. Adams,	50.00
Cyrus Adams,	300.00
John Knowlton,	1,000.00
Manning Seamans,	250.00
Enoch C. Adams,	50.00
Abiah Clough,	100.00
Hezekiah Messer,	53.00
Charles Woodward,	160.00
Albert Little,	300.00
Sarah M. Wilkins,	75.00
John Branen,	802.00
Eliphalet Gay,	500.00
Sarah Brown,	400.00
Rhoda Brown,	70.00
Albert Little,	250.00
Osborn French,	113.00
Mary A. Messer,	160.00
Enoch Adams,	75.00
John Trussell,	100.00

Manning Seamans,	500.00
Stephen Whittier,	200.00
Mary Jewett,	130.00
Thomas Kidder,	375.00
Sally Currier,	325.00
Jona. W. Buswell,	100.00
Ann C. Buswell,	50.00
Marinda Addison,	50.00
Obadiah Morgan,	250.00
Eliphalet Gay,	100.00
Judith S. Messer,	200.00
Sarah S. Fulton,	700.00
John Messer,	25.00
Charles Trussell,	200.00
Jane E. Graves,	2,000.00
John Hoit,	300.00
Fanny Hoit,	100.00
Obadiah Morgan,	100.00
Mary George,	2,000.00
George M. Knight,	505.00
Jane E. Graves,	361.00
Charles Goings,	200.00
James M. Jewett,	600.00
Laura Davis,	100.00
Ransome Sargent,	212.00
John M. Dow,	141.85
Laura Davis,	160.49
Nancy Brown,	40.00
Charles Jewett,	250.00
George M. Jewett,	150.00
The Colby Children,	250.00
George F. Wiley,	200.00
Harriet S. Messer,	200.00
Asa B. Pillsbury,	282.00
Margaret Burpee,	28.59
Betsey Perley,	200.00
Ransome Sargent,	238.00
Interest on the above,	3,500.00
Whole amt. in debts,	\$21,566.93

A Schedule of Property at Town Farm, Feb. 22, 1869.

6 tons stable hay,	\$84.00
12 " stock hay,	120.00
$\frac{1}{2}$ " straw,	3.00
1 pair oxen,	215.00

5 cows,	200.00
1 pair three years old steers,	25.00
1 two years old,	40.00
1 yearling,	25.00
4 calves,	75.00
1 shote,	15.00
10 hens,	5.00
20 bushels corn,	25.00
14 " oats,	10.70
3 " wheat,	9.00
2 " barley,	2.00
4 " beans,	6.00
peas,	1.00
75 " potatoes,	26.25
1½ barrel pork	58.00
¾ " ham, shoulders, &c.,	30.00
½ " beef,	12.00
Fresh meat,	2.40
20 lbs. tallow,	2.40
11 doz. candles,	1.65
35 lbs. lard,	8.50
6 lbs. butter,	1.80
Boiled cider,	1.00
3 gals. vinegar,	1.00
½ box salt,	.25
1 barrel soap,	4.00
3 " ashes,	1.50
⅔ " flour,	8.00
Cart and fixings,	25.00
2 plows,	10.00
Harrow and drag,	3.00
Wedges and rings,	.50
Chains and yokes,	7.00
Axes and wheelbarrow,	3.00
Horse rake & hay scales,	4.00
Augers, and cheese press,	2.00
Wood-saw and grindstone,	3.00
Sleds and crow bar,	3.00
Manure shovels and forks,	1.50
Cook stove and furniture,	20.00
Sap pan and buckets,	8.00
Household furniture,	60.00
5 M. shingles,	8.00
Sawed lumber,	5.00

 \$1,282.45

The Town Farm is credited, for the year 1868, as follows :

George Woodward, for butter,	\$16.38	Charles C. Pingree, for 1 pair oxen,	190.00
Joseph Nelson,	9.54	J. L. Loverin, for balance on calf,	3.50
For ash timber,	1.70	J. L. Loverin, for pasturing,	7.50
Jona. S. George, for beef,	8.18	Nathaniel Knowlton, for use of sap trees,	5.00
Lewis Richards, for hide,	7.63		
Ash Timber,	.75		
Henry Davis, agent, for work,	10.00	Amount credited,	\$260.18

The Town Farm is charged, for the year 1868, as follows :

1 peck seed corn,	.50	Amos Hastings, mend. shoes,	.12
B. C. Davis, for horse,	.50	Cha's Jewett, for butcher- ing,	1.00
Moses Davis,	1.50	Emery, for sawing lumber,	2.58
12 quarts seed corn,	.75	J. M. Jewett, for horse, &c.,	3.22
B. C. Davis, for tub,	.50	James Davis, for work hay- ing,	25.00
Charles Jewett, for axe,	1.25	Daniel Favour, for work haying,	22.50
Hiram Baker, for horse,	.30	Dan'l Bickford, 2 pigs,	6.25
" " " rennet,	.55	Henry W. Seamans, for clock,	5.00
4 bushels meal,	5.60	John M. Dow, smith work,	3.68
John Wetherspoon, for work,	.25	Geo. M. Knight, for sink,	3.75
B. C. Davis, for tub,	.50	Charles S. Sargent, acct.,	5.72
James Davis, 1½ day's work,	1.50	Greenwood & Burpee, bal- ance on acct.,	39.44
Cha's Jewett, for tubs and baskets,	2.25	O. K. Russell & Co., bal- ance on acct.,	11.97
Dan'l George, 1 pair shoes,	1.25	Amount charged,	\$155.08
J. K. Collins, for threshing,	4.20		
Amos Hasting, mend. shoes,	.44		
J. S. George, making cider,	.10		
Nath'l Knowlton,	.25		
J. M. Taylor, for rolls,	.66		
Henry Davis, 1 lb. rolls,	.75		
Joseph Nelson, for axe,	1.25		
Whole amount credited, 1868,			260.18
Whole amount charged, 1868,			155.08

Balance in favor of town, carried to the credit of the town, \$105.10

LUTHER McCUTCHINS, } *Selectmen*
 ALBERT R. HUNTING, } *of*
 CURTIS MESSER, } *New-London.*

REPORT

OF THE

SUPERINTENDENT OF COMMON SCHOOLS

FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 9, 1869.

The statutes of the State require that a Report on the schools of the Town should be presented at the close of each year. The principal topics which the law specifies, have been arranged in tabular form on the following page, and an examination of the figures in the several columns will bring out the chief features of our schools for the past year.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

No. of District.	Summer and Winter Terms.	TEACHERS.	No. of weeks of school.	Wages of Teachers.	Whole No. of scholars.	Average attendance.	No. in Reading and Spelling.	No. in Penmanship.	No. in Arithmetic.	No. in Grammar.	No. in Geography.	No. in History.	No. in Philosophy.	No. in Algebra.
1.	Summer.	Miss Amanda Marston,	10	\$18.	15	13	15	8	9					
	Winter.	Mr. O. D. Crockett,	8	18.	17	14	17	11	13	7	4			
2.	Summer.	Miss Mary E. Russell,			27	20	27	14	24	5	12			
3.	Summer.	Miss Fannie Gates,	13½	24.	32	27	32	13	26	6	17	2		
	Winter.	Mr. C. H. Clement,	12	45.	43	31	43	26	39	12	26	9		
4.	Summer.	Miss Abby F. Gay,	10	16.	17	13	17	7	14	1	4			
	Winter.	Miss Abby F. Gay,	16	20.	20	15	20	14	17	4	7			
5.	Summer.	Miss Abby M. Todd,	10		29	20	29	11	22	5	7	5		1
	Winter.	Miss M. B. Sherman,	8	34.	27	23	27		23	6	6			8
6.	Summer.	Miss Adalaide Burpee,	7	19.	15	14	15	8	15	5	7	2	1	
	Winter.	Miss Arvilla Pattee,	7	20.	19	16	19	15	19	7	9		1	
7.	Summer.	Miss Sarah J. Nichols,	6	14.	16	13	16	3	10	2	4			
	Winter.	Miss Sarah J. Nichols,	9	18.	19	16	19	6	14	7	3	3		

THE TEACHERS.

My supervision has extended only over the last half-year; but the teachers in the Winter schools have been faithful, laborious, and generally successful. They have differed in special fitness for the work; but, so far as I could judge by the visits made, all the districts have been well served. Some of the teachers might have been more useful, and more good have been realized from the money expended, if there had been more hearty coöperation on the part of the parents. Without this a good teacher will fail, and with it a poor teacher will do a good work.

THE SCHOOLS.

The preceding Table shows that the scholars have attended mostly to the common English studies. The different degrees of proficiency depend on the habits of districts and scholars for successive terms. I find in the schools a good degree of interest in Arithmetic. It has been studied as if the pupils felt that success in life depended mainly on the art of calculation. Grammar has been studied with less interest. I am unable to say whether this is in consequence of the indifference of the teachers or the quality of the scholars. Scarcely a dozen good grammar scholars have appeared in all the Winter schools. This study should be more perseveringly urged on the attention of the young, as it contributes largely to comfort and success in our educated community. In most of the schools too little importance is attached to good reading. I fear that the teachers have been too careless in respect to pronunciation, and scholars have been indulged in erroneous habits. In regard to correct pronunciation, thoughtful and expressive reading and distinct articulation, the schools in New-London are evidently behind many towns in New-England. The schools in districts 5, 6 and 7, deserve honorable mention for interest and accuracy in spelling.

The records show that the attendance has been generally regular. Several pupils have not been absent a single half-day in a term. Such regularity deserves commendation. The school in No. 6 has, on the whole, the finest record through the year. Districts 1 and 7 come next. District 3 stands far in advance of all the others in the proportion of marks for absence and tardiness, there being 561 for tardiness and 111 for absence. Most of these marks stand against scholars within a half-mile of the school house. Scytheville stands next in this class. Such slackness is enough to doom the best teachers.

SCHOOL HOUSES.

The school buildings in town would be called comfortable according to the common notion of such buildings. But more attention should

be given to the places where our children are educated. The school house needs an outlay for its erection, and just as much needs constant care to keep it in proper condition. The lack is generally in regard to the last point. The house is built and left to care for itself. A poor school house is naturally taken as a sign of the work of intelligence, good taste and public spirit in the community. So far as I know, no money has been raised in most of the districts for repairs. The house on Burpee Hill has been made more comfortable and convenient, but if more study had been given to the work, the same money would have made the house more pleasant and comfortable. It probably would be a better plan to place the building and repairs of all the school houses in the hands of one committee. Then let the plans be carefully studied and faithfully carried out, and in time we should have a set of houses that would be a credit to the town.

The school premises remain in nearly the condition in which they were thirty years ago. Is it not time for the intelligence and cultivation of the people of New-London to show themselves in the adornment of their public grounds?

The Ventilation of most of the houses is wretched. No provision is made for the introduction of pure air. We deny ourselves and labor hard to obtain wholesome food for our children; but if at the same time we fail to provide pure air for them, we are criminally negligent, for we know that pure air is as necessary for life as food. No building needs thorough ventilation more than a district school house, especially in Winter. The scholars come in from their sports, with their clothes reeking with all sorts of vapors, to be shut up in a small room, and in a short time the air is so polluted by the exhalations and breathing that it is intolerable to one who comes in from the fresh out-door breezes.

It has been a wonder to me, as I have sat in some of these houses, how the teacher and scholars could maintain any elasticity of mind in such contaminated air. In two instances I have been rendered unfit for work for two or three days following a visit to the place where the concentrated intelligence and wealth of a district were educating the children of that community—were really poisoning their bodies while educating the mind. In the construction of the house in No. 3, more attention was given to this subject than in any other, and this was fortunate; for otherwise the miserable arrangements in the basement of that building would have generated a plague of some sort before this. The house in No. 6 also requires a change, so that the scholars can be accommodated, and the air at the same time be pure and sweet. If no other proper method for the circulation of pure air in

the school houses can be devised and applied, I would earnestly recommend an immediate return to the large chimney and open fire-place, with its back-log and fore-stick. That arrangement was far superior to the present.

The success of our present system depends to a great extent on fullness and accuracy of the reports of each term. I would ask the Prudential Committees to give more attention to these returns.

Respectfully submitted.

A. W. SAWYER.

TOWN OF NEW-LONDON.

TOWNE OF NEW-LONDON.